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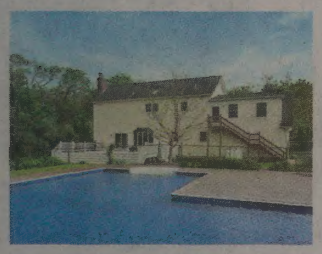

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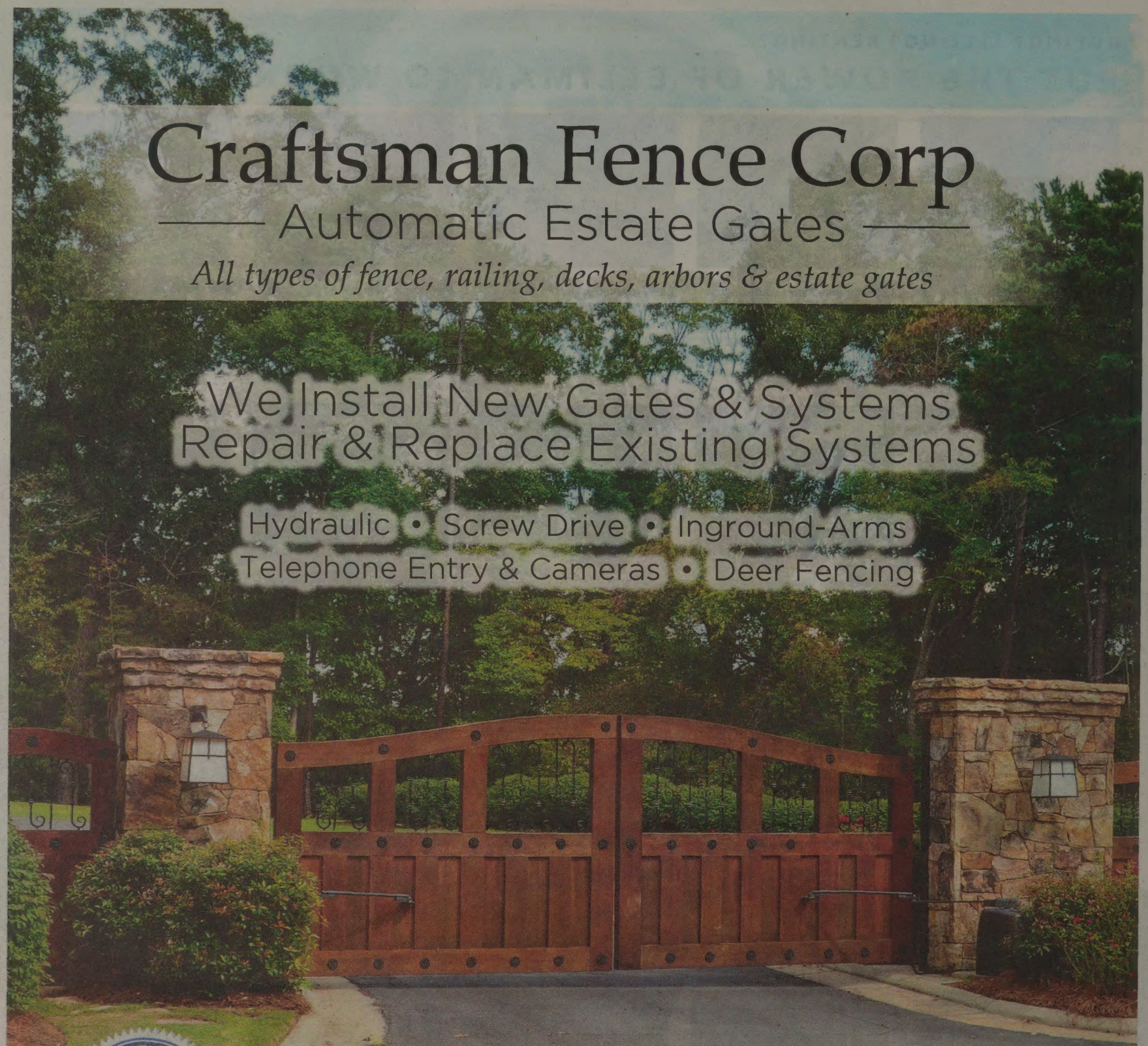

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CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS & PHOTOGRAPHERS
Barry Gordin, Jennifer Meihofer
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Volume LVIII Number 36 November 15, 2019

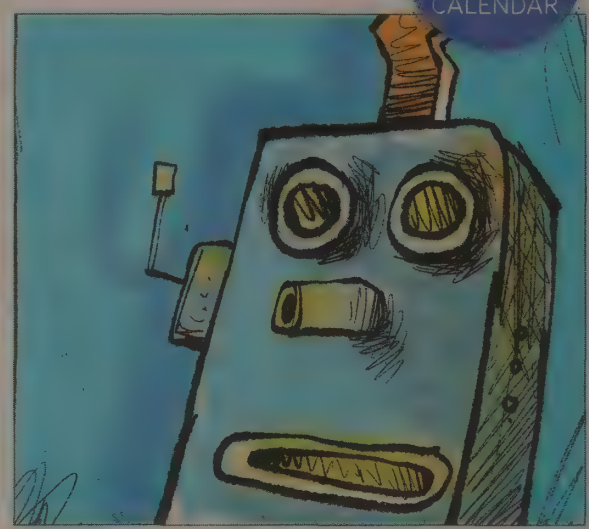
Dan's Papers

CONTENTS

This issue is dedicated to Pete Alonso.

15 HAMPTONS CALENDAR

FEATURES



22 CONSCIENCE POINT
by Dan Rattiner
This documentary about the Shinnecocks will be shown on PBS

26 SELF-DRIVING CARS
by Dan Rattiner
Has anyone thought this through? I'm not so sure about it

27 UMPIRE TO BE PUPPET?
by Dan Rattiner
Umpire may be told what to call by robot

19 SOUTH O' THE HIGHWAY
The latest Hamptons celebrity news

20 HAMPTONS SUBWAY
by Dan Rattiner

20 POLICE BLOTTER
Compiled by Oliver Peterson

21 PAGE 27
Your route to where the beautiful people play

26 OLA'S MINERVA PEREZ: BUILDING A STRONGER EAST END
by David Taylor

32 HONORING THE ARTIST JACQUELINE PENNEY

23

DEPARTMENTS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

35 MM Fine Art Delivers David Slater at His Revelatory Best

FOOD & DRINK

37 Celebrating the Superlative Claudia Fleming's *Last Course*

40 Chef Robby Beaver Stays Frisky for the Holidays

41 Chef Peter Ambrose Spreads Seasonal Cheer

LIFESTYLE

44 LGBT History in the Hamptons: Nanette and Isa's Love

REAL ESTATE

55 Fashion Mogul Elie Tahari Lists Sagaponack Estate

46 Service Directory

53 Classifieds

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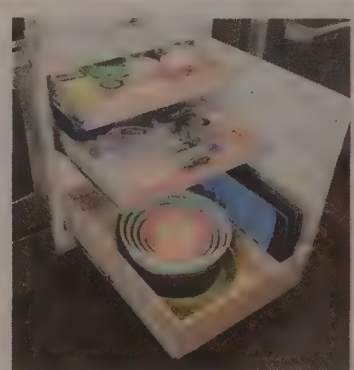

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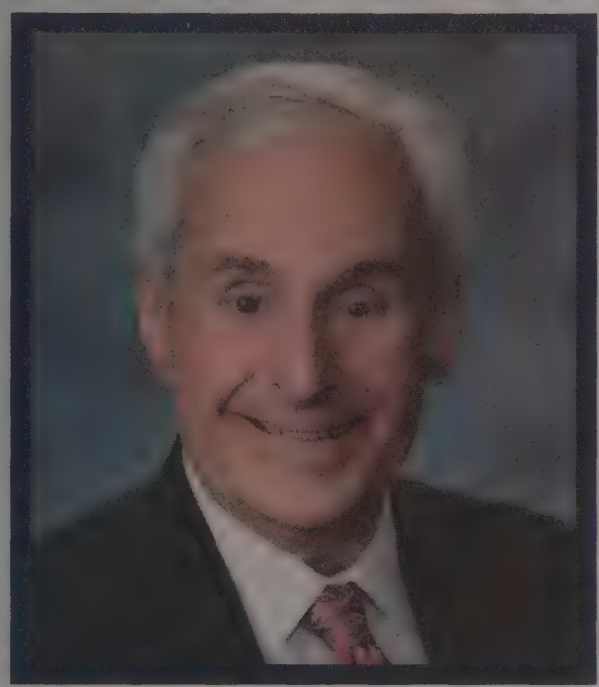

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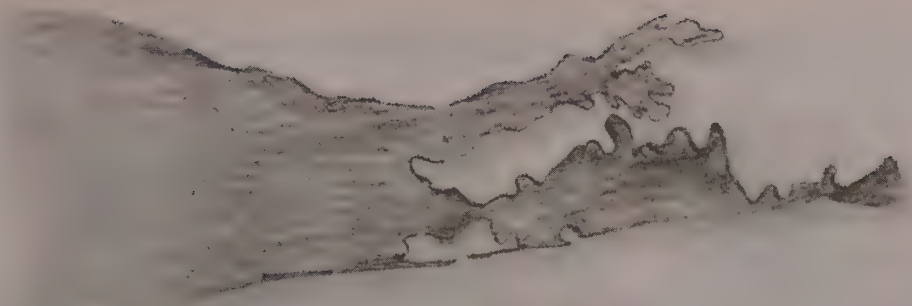

OUT & ABOUT ON THE EAST END

WHAT TO DO. WHERE TO GO. WHERE TO PLAY.

Latino Film Festival of the Hamptons

NOVEMBER 15–17, TIMES VARY

The Organización Latino-Americana (OLA) presents their annual weekend-long festival showcasing Spanish-language films with English subtitles from promising young filmmakers. On Friday night, the Parrish Art Museum screens *Antes Que Llegue el Ferry*, a futuristic dark comedy set after the restoration of US-Cuba relations. The screening includes a Golden Pear Café reception and a live video discussion with the creators. Festivities begin with a bilingual museum tour at 5:30 p.m.

On Saturday night, Guild Hall screens *Amalia, La Secretaria*, a dramedy about a secretary's loss of professional control after meeting an intriguing maintenance guy. Afterward, lead actress and comedienne Marcela Benjumea will discuss the movie via video chat. An opening reception kicks off the screening at 6 p.m. Sunday's event is a 2 p.m. family screening of *Pachamama*, an animated film about a young boy who dreams of becoming a shaman, at Greenport High School.

For tickets and more info, visit olalatinofilmfest2019.eventbrite.com.

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118 East Main Street, Riverhead
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EHTPS LIGHTHOUSE PEEK HIKE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 10 A.M.

Join Laurie DeVito and Aggie Cindrich of the East Hampton Trails Preservation Society (EHTPS) for a four-mile hike that heads east on a serpentine trail toward a beautiful scenic view of Gardiners Bay. After continuing along the waterfront, the group will peek at the Cedar Point Lighthouse before heading to the camping area. See the EHTPS website for membership details.

Cedar Point County Park Office,
5 Cedar Point Road, Northwest Harbor
631-813-6988, ehtps.org

AN EVENING OF SONG
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 7 P.M.

Southampton Cultural Center (SCC) hosts an evening of melodious music, featuring selections from Georges Bizet to Broadway by classical concert soloist Emily Paccasassi and special guests, tenor vocalist Darren Ottati and violinist Song-A Cho. Light refreshments will be served. Tickets are $25. Proceeds allow SCC to provide enriching cultural programming to the Hamptons.

Southampton Cultural Center
25 Pond Lane, Southampton
631-287-4377, scc-arts.org

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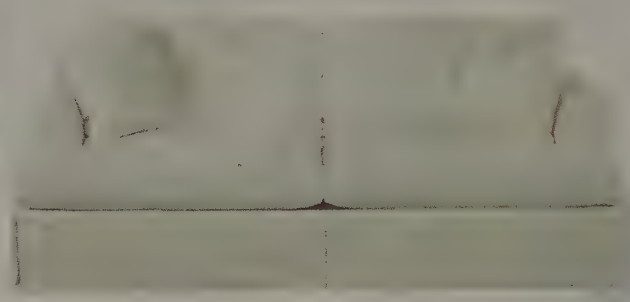
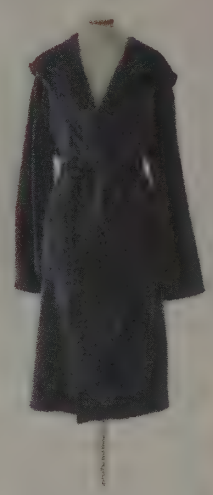

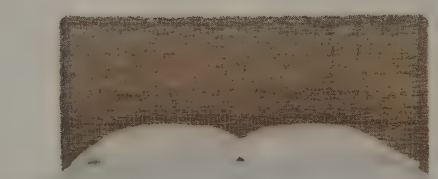
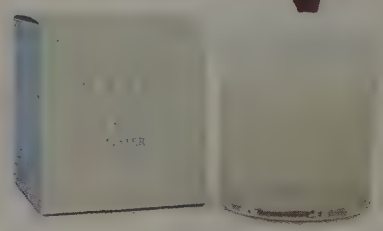

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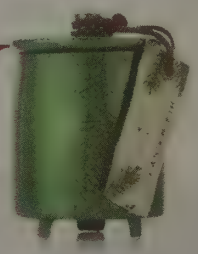

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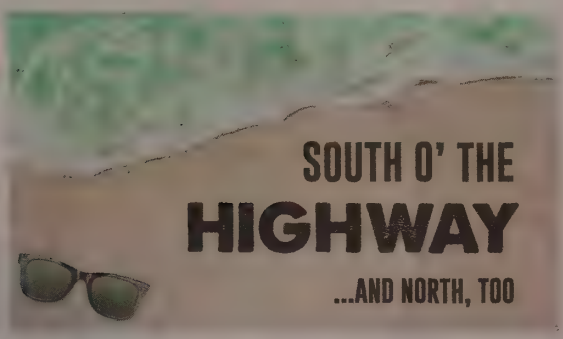

Bridgehampton's **Carl Johnson**, who led the Bridgehampton Killer Bees basketball teams to four state championships, will be welcomed into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame next spring. The induction ceremony will take place in Glens Falls this March.

Bette Midler presented Montauk's **Julianne Moore** with a WSJ. Innovators Award on Wednesday, November 6. Midler revealed the two are best friends and spent time in Montauk.

East Hampton's **Martha Stewart** has a new kitchen partner: Williams Sonoma. The cookware company just launched Martha Stewart's Complete Thanksgiving Dinner, a complete meal for eight that includes Mushroom, Leek and Herb Stuffing, Classic Cranberry Sauce and more. Said Stewart of the partnership in a statement, "The dishes we created include the highest quality ingredients and are some of my favorite recipes that I have served to friends and family. We do all the hard for you—you serve a delicious holiday meal without all the muss and fuss!" Visit williams-sonoma.com for more information.

ANDY COHEN

Shelter Island resident **Andy Cohen** will launch Andy Cohen Books, an imprint of Henry Holt and Company, next year. Among his first titles? A memoir by **Mariah Carey**, which will chronicle her path to superstardom. Additional early books include *The Queen V* by **Dr. Jacqueline Waters**, and *Bodacious Dreams and Bevelations* by **Bevy Smith**.

Congratulations, **Katie Couric**! The longtime South Forker received the Poynter Institute's 2019 Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Journalism at the organization's Bowtie Ball in St. Petersburg, FL.

Read more South O' the Highway at DansPapers.com.

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The Hamptons Subway Newsletter

BY DAN RATTINER

Week of November 14–20, 2019
Riders this past week: 19,822
Rider miles this past week: 53,902

DOWN IN THE TUBE

Congressman Lee Zeldin was seen riding the subway between Southampton and Water Mill talking turkey with Subway Commissioner Aspinall Monday afternoon. Southampton Town Supervisor Jay Schneiderman was seen carrying a bongo drum while riding from Quogue to Quiogue, and for the six minutes the ride took he had subwaygoers dancing in the aisles.

TURKEY GIVEAWAY

Due to a clerical error where a clerk wrote the wrong date on an order form, the 50,000 50–pound Butterball frozen turkeys, which were supposed to be delivered on the 27th by our supplier so on the 28th we could give them out one at a time as Thanksgiving gifts to every subway rider coming through the turnstiles, instead arrived yesterday, November 13. Well, we don't have enough freezers for 2 million pounds of frozen turkey, so instead, this Saturday, we will give all the turkeys away at the turnstiles, each with a big white sticker on it reading, "PLEASE KEEP THIS TURKEY FROZEN AND RETURN IT TO THIS HAMPTONS SUBWAY TURNSTILE ON NOVEMBER 27 TO GIVE TO THE NEXT PERSON COMING THROUGH. THANK YOU AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING." This should work.

WIND POWER?

Hamptons Subway is considering a proposal from an outfit called Blowhard Wind Ltd. that says it could provide full wind power to all subway trains by putting steel rotary windmills 90 feet up above ground along the tunnel routes to deliver the power straight down to the subway trains as they pass through. Most of the rotary windmills will be sticking up into the sky on Subway property and only a few will have to be on people's front or back lawns.

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE

As you know, Commissioner Aspinall is best friends with Donald Trump, visits Mar-a-Lago often and has frequently played Trump's favorite rainy day game, "Paper, Rock, Scissors" with him. In any case, the Commissioner, at Trump's request, has opened an investigation to look into Hamptons Subway bribery charges, which will be filed against whichever Democrat gets chosen to run for President against Trump next June. If you want to be part of the bribery ring roundup, please contact the commissioner because he's organizing it. He is looking for a whistleblower, someone with an offshore bank account, someone who wants to be accused of offering the bribe and someone who can confirm the bribe was taken. Everyone connected with the operation will be assured a pardon if convicted and sentenced to jail time. It's all on the up and up.

BATS ON THE SUBWAY

A klagen of more than a million endangered black bats has been found to be sleeping in the subway tunnel between Bridgehampton and Sag Harbor. The bats sleep all day, all folded up on the subway walls, but at 2 a.m., when the subway system is closed for maintenance, they wake up and all of them, together in a great black silent flutter, fly up and out the subway entrance in Sag Harbor. They go unnoticed in the night sky there as they circle around eating bugs. Then, at 3 a.m., they flutter back to their klagen on the walls, usually in the same group they formed when they went out, but backwards. They are harmless, but if you fear they might pluck out your eyes, we can provide goggles for free. Just ask for them at the token booth.

COMMISSIONER ASPINALL'S MESSAGE

During last week's cold spell, more than 1,000 people came down to our platforms to keep warm. Since they didn't go anywhere, it was all profit when they paid the $2.75 coming through the turnstiles.

Police BLOTTER

BY OLIVER PETERSON

LOCAL WHISTLEBLOWER GOES UNHEARD IN LEAF BLOWER DIN

According to a recent complaint filed with the Hampton Police Department, a Sag Harbor man bravely stepped up to blow the whistle on major corruption and injustice being perpetrated by some people from some company or organization somewhere in the village, but no one could hear him over the ceaseless din of gas-powered leaf blowers, no matter where he tried to speak.

The man also, apparently, sent in his complaint via email, but it must have ended up in the Hamptons Police junk mail box, which no one at the Department knows how to access. Members of the HPD IT team said they could possibly extract the email if the man could provide his address, but no one could hear him when he tried to share it.

If things continue like this, police spokesman Rex Gallant says they may add a part-time lip reader to next year's budget.

MONTAUK SURFER SENTENCED IN SHARK ATTACK DEATH

After an extended trial in Hamptons Municipal Court, Montauk big wave surfer Finn Squalocibo was sentenced to a year in prison and 18 months of community service this week for his role in killing a great white shark in April. The shark's death was ruled his fault after it attacked him and took a chunk of his fiberglass board, which ultimately killed the endangered shark. Squalocibo escaped the animal's jaws unharmed, but jurors agreed he was negligent because the surfer "failed to consider the damage his board could cause in the event of a shark attack."

Surfing advocates argue that the sentence is unfair, pointing out that Squalocibo did not actively harm the shark, but even if he did, it would've been in self-defense. The jury, however, noted in their decision, "If we accept this, what's to stop people from mowing down piping plovers, sperm whales or eastern tiger salamanders out of quote-unquote self-defense? It would be unmitigated chaos, death and mayhem for our local endangered species."

Squalocibo and his attorney have promised to mount a vigorous appeal.

Meanwhile, the Hamptons Municipal Board is moving ahead with possible legislation banning any fiberglass surfboards ruled "unsafe" for attacking sharks. "We believe a new law requiring dense, unbreakable wood or foam boards could be very important to protecting our sharks, which can't help but attack such a delicious-looking shape in the water," Municipal Board representative Lisa J. Kapotnick explained this week. "But some on the board believe surfers should be allowed to enjoy their sport how they choose, while holding Mr. Squalocibo up as an example and deterrent, showing them that they do so at their own risk." The Board expects to make a decision on this matter before summer 2020.

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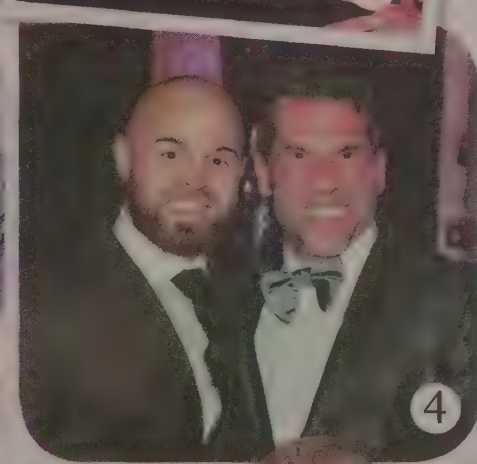
New York Cancer Foundation "Raising Hope Gala"

New York Cancer Foundation (NYCF) held their "Raising Hope Gala" at the beautiful Royalton Estates in Mattituck on November 9. Nat Turner, Co-Founder/CEO of Flatiron Health, was honored and presented with an award by New York Cancer Foundation Board Chair Dr. Jeff Vacirca, Laura Stempkoski was recognized as a grant recipient, and Suffolk County Sheriff Dr. Errol Toulon Jr. was a guest speaker. Proceeds raised from the evening directly benefit the New York Cancer Foundation and their mission of relieving the financial stresses experienced during treatment for cancer patients. Photographs by Barbara Lassen



1. New York Cancer Foundation Board Chair **Dr. Jeff Vacirca**, New York Cancer Foundation Board Member **Mark Santos**, **Erich Mounce**, Honoree **Nat Turner**, Co-Founder/CEO Flatiron Health
2. Suffolk County Sheriff **Dr. Errol Toulon Jr.** with wife **Nancy Toulon**
3. Grant recipient **Laura Stempkoski**
4. **Anthony Peterson**, New York Cancer Foundation Board Chair **Dr. Jeff Vacirca**
5. **Reid Harris** and **John Sakkos** of Clovis Oncology
6. **Debra Levitt**, **Jonathan Levitt**, Founding Partner at Frier Levitt LLC, **Alana Frier**, **Daniel Frier**, Founding Partner at Frier Levitt LLC
7. **Dawn Neilson**, **Joe Link**, American Red Cross
8. **Dr. Gurmohan Syali**, **Dr. Vandana Syali**
9. **Esther Finkelstein**, **Sherri May**
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Conscience Point

This Documentary About the Shinnecocks Will Be Shown on PBS

BY DAN RATTINER

A documentary film about the Shinnecock Indian Nation, five years in the making and first shown at the Hamptons International Film Festival last month, will air on PBS (locally channel 13) on Monday, November 18 at 10:30 p.m. After that it can be seen as a stream at pbs.org or on the PBS Video App.

The movie is entitled *Conscience Point*, because it was at that place in 1640 at North Sea, Southampton that the settlers from England arrived on a sailboat from Massachusetts and met the friendly Shinnecock Indians who lived here. The Shinnecocks escorted the settlers to a safe place to build shelters for the upcoming winter, now called Old Town near Southampton Hospital. The Shinnecocks taught them their traditions and helped them to find their way in the New World.

By the time Treva Wurmfeld, a filmmaker from New York now living in Los Angeles, came to this area to make this film about the Shinnecocks, much had changed. The settlers had taken over almost all of eastern Long Island from them, formed a new country and had reluctantly given to the tribe a piece of property to call their own on a lush peninsula jutting out into Shinnecock Bay. Here, in a land of just 1.3 square miles they call their own, they have lived since then. According to the 2010 census, the current population of this nation, separate from the United States, is 662.

Wurmfeld decided to tell the story of the Shinnecocks through the eyes of a longtime Shinnecock advocate, Rebecca Hill-Genia, who lives on the reservation and who Wurmfeld met in 2014. The film explores the complex relationships between this official Shinnecock Indian Nation and those who live around it.

From that first landing at Conscience Point in 1640 and through to about 1990, the Shinnecocks ran their tribal area privately, closed off from the rest of the community. Signs leading into the tribal grounds bore signs reading KEEP OUT. And they meant it. A council of three tribal chiefs ran things, but how they were selected was not known. If you went onto their land anyway, you'd be escorted back out. In 1976, there was an attempt at getting the tribe official federal tribal recognition, but it foundered. And that was as far as it got.

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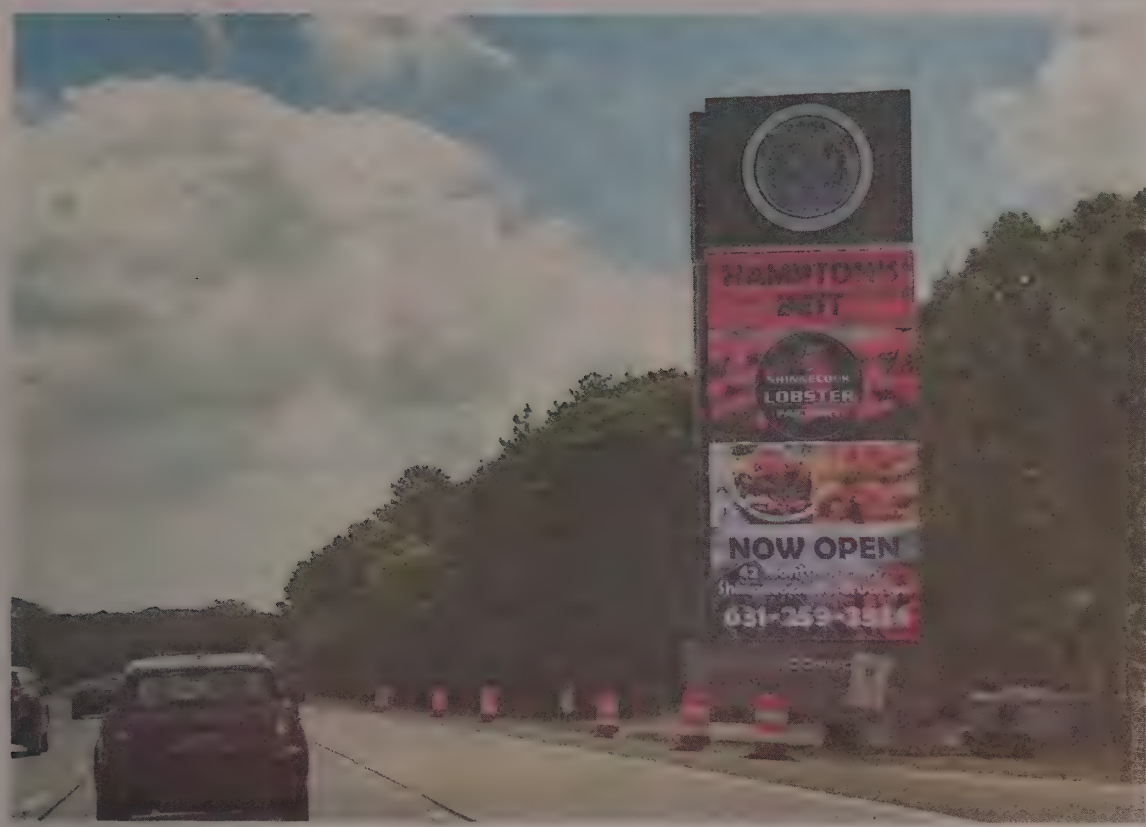


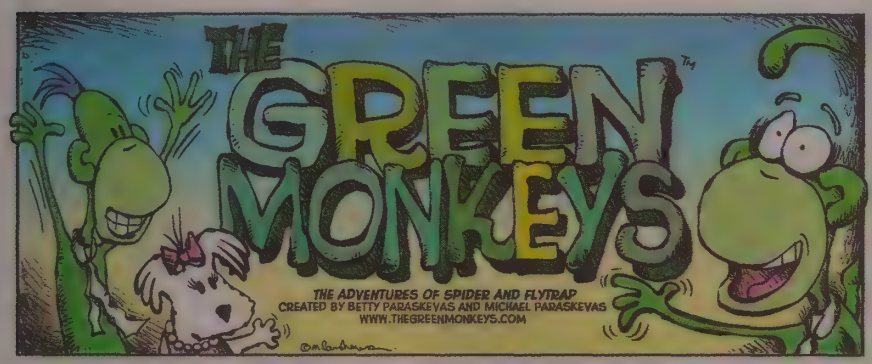
THE SHINNECOCK MONUMENT ON SUNRISE HIGHWAY

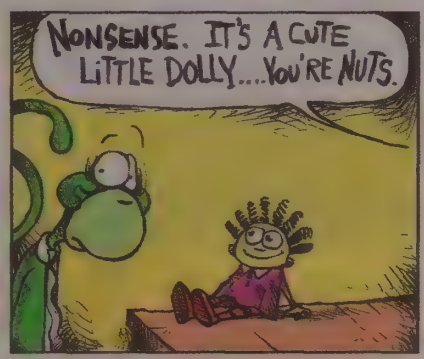
Then, around 1990, the tribe went through a complete political and cultural transformation. Some of it the community around them liked, some not. But no one could deny that the tribe was standing up for itself. They renewed their tribal recognition push, finally achieving it in October 2010. They went public with how their tribal leaders were elected by having it done by tribal vote. They gave female tribal members the vote. They advocated for permission to build a bingo hall on eastern Long Island and a full-fledged casino up the island in Patchogue or Nassau County. But that fell through. I recall at one point Tribal Councilman Lance Gumbs stood in front of a bulldozer clearing land in Hampton Bays for the bingo hall project to try to prevent the Town from shutting down the effort. But that fell through. At another point, the Tribe filed a legal action against the Town, claiming the land surrounding the tribal grounds in Southampton was stolen from them, and they lost.

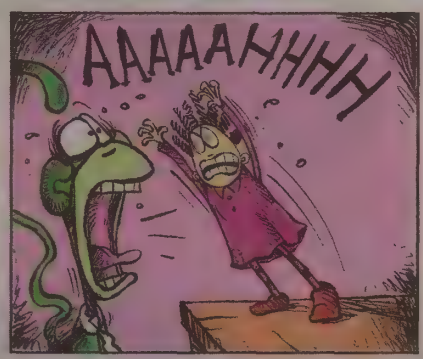
But then there have been successes. Financial help began to come in from the federal government. This past year, the Tribe erected an electric billboard and began to sell advertising on it. Now they are proposing to open a gas station where gas could be sold cheaper, because as a separate nation no federal or state taxes need to be paid. They are also now working with the Town of Southampton to provide guidelines involving Indian burial sites where developers might come upon human remains. And in a most recent development, the Tribe worked out problems concerning their children and their education at the local schools.

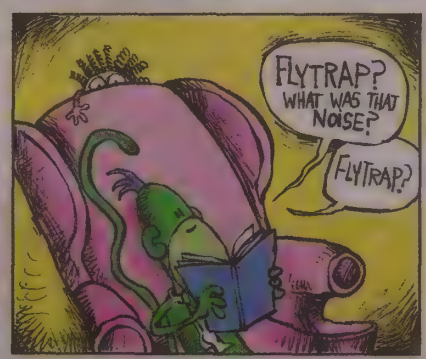
Regarding the burial site problem, Hill-Genia told *Newsday*, "We're going to tell the whole world we're upset, and hopefully, we can build an alliance of like-minded people who will help us stop this overdevelopment crisis and stop this desecration of our ancient burials."

November is National American Indian Heritage Month. It's a good time to premiere a film called *Conscience Point*.









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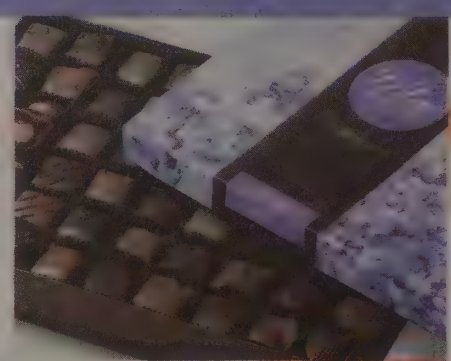

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Self-Driving Cars

Has Anyone Thought This Through? I'm Not So Sure About It

BY DAN RATTINER

I've been giving a lot of thought lately to a time coming up pretty soon where we will have driverless cars. For instance, I have little doubt that soon after we get them we will pass laws making it illegal for humans to drive cars. After all, about 30,000 people a year are killed when humans drive cars in America. It would be crazy to continue to let them drive.

Here's a few thoughts. At night, you won't need for the computer driving the driverless car to have to dim the lights when another driverless car approaches. In fact, you won't need headlights or taillights at all. The computers don't see. They don't have eyes. They just sense the approach of things. You will, however, need at least one light on a car that indicates it is driving along in the dark. That would be for nearby pedestrians. Otherwise they might stumble into the side of a car and injure themselves. Probably the best place for it would be high up in the center of the roof. I suggest small green blinking lights. Friendly like.

So many other things inside the car will be unnecessary. They will go the way of the cigarette lighter. You won't need speedometers. You won't need a seat for the driver. You won't need brake pedals or accelerator pedals. You won't need push-button windows. Computers don't have fingers.

And will we have these driverless cars parking in our driveway? Today we own a car. Some people even name them. We pick out its color, kick the tires, look under the hood.

My guess is we won't have cars in our driveways. Want to go someplace? Call one up on the cellphone. It will be like ordering an Uber. Driverless cars will be everywhere on all the streets so one will pick you up in a minute or two to take you where you want to go. Why own a car, anyway? No registration or inspection stickers, no insurance cards in the glove compartment. Indeed, when driverless cars are king (or queen?) the auto insurance companies will be entirely out of business. Not necessary.

You know what else will be out of business? The Daytona 500. The Indianapolis 500. Who would like to go to watch such a thing with all the danger and heroics and celebrations and all, with all those grinning drivers drenched with champagne at the end? A computer celebrates? Forget it.

Also, there will be no more "please move your car, I have to take out mine," there will be no more road rage, no more "can I use your car?" So sad.

Now here's a good thing.

Here in the Hamptons you won't need parking stickers to park at the beach. You won't have huge parking lots overflowing with cars so you have to follow somebody with packages walking to where he parked so you can park there when he pulls out. But you will still be able to go "shopping." Just get dropped off then picked up again. And packages? Just call a driverless car and throw in your packages and have them taken to your home. That's what Amazon does.

So there's lots of hints of things even today that begin to show you the future of getting around.

Now here's a bad thing. There will be a transition period when people who love driving and have been doing it for years will no longer be permitted to do it. They will suffer from something like post-traumatic stress disorder. They will need psychiatrists. Or they will suffer in silence and just remember the good old days. Or maybe they will act out—go on foot to a parking lot where drivable cars still exist waiting in line to be flattened. And these people, red eyed from stress and lack of sleep, will choose a silver and black BMW or a red Corvette, get in and take it out for a spin, soon to be noticed by the police and after a 20-mile, 130-mile-an-hour chase, banging off parked driverless cars they will get stopped, tasered, handcuffed, arrested and taken in, all while humming a tune by Chuck Berry.

As I was motivatin' over the hill,
I saw Maybellene in a Coup de Ville.
A Cadillac a-rollin' on the open road,
Nothin' will outrun my V8 Ford.
The Cadillac doin' about ninety-five,
She's bumper to bumper, rollin' side by side.

Oh Maybellene, why can't you be true?
Oh Maybellene, why can't you be true?
You've started back doing the things you used to do.

Umpire May Be Told What to Call by Robot

BY DAN RATTINER

It was inevitable that it would happen. Major League Baseball this summer had robot umpires call balls and strikes in a minor league to see if they want to do it in the majors. The way it worked was that the robot would establish the strike zone based on the height of the approaching batter and the distance he stood off the plate, focus in sharply on the arriving curve or fastball and then relay the result of its calculations into an earpiece of a living umpire leaning in from behind the plate.

"Strike one," the robot would say.

"Strike one," the human puppet umpire, feeling like a fool, would say, raising his right arm to indicate the strike.

Thus, in this minor league, anyway, "the umpire is blind" and "kill the umpire" and "wassa matta umpire, forget your glasses?" did no longer come wafting down from the stands.

Major League Baseball officials made note of what happened in this experiment. They haven't yet said if they like it enough to bring it up to the majors.

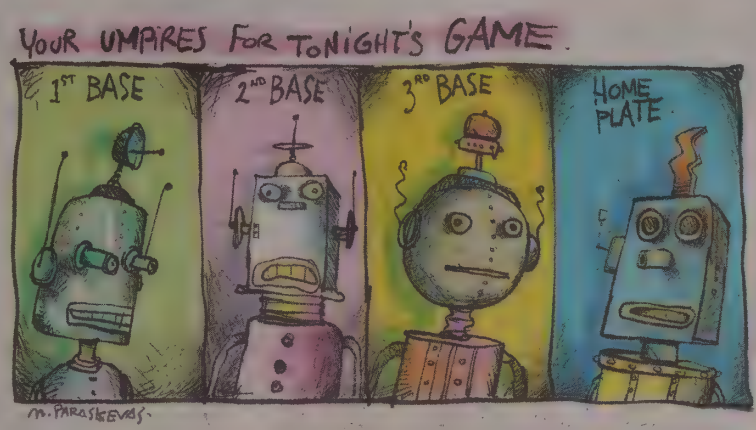
This experiment took place this past summer here on eastern Long Island among other places, where a robot-called balls and strikes in the Atlantic League, one of the minor leagues not officially affiliated with Major League Baseball teams that includes teams such as the Long Island Ducks, the New Britain Bees, the High Point Rockers, the Somerset Patriots, the Lancaster Barnstormers, the Sugar Land Skeeters and the York Revolution.

Of course, Major League Baseball did not do this without the permission of the Atlantic League. This past spring, a deal was signed giving control of the Atlantic League's baseball rules to MLB. For the next three years, Major League Baseball will be modifying the rules for play in the Atlantic League to see if something might work out. Among other things in this first year, they made a rule that if the game goes into extra innings, each inning begins with a runner on second. They also installed the robot umpires.

The Atlantic League is not to be confused with the Atlantic Collegiate Baseball League, nor the Hamptons Collegiate Baseball League, which had ties to the ACBL when it launched over a decade ago and whose teams now include the North Fork Ospreys, the Riverhead Tomcats, the Sag Harbor Whalers, the Shelter Island Bucks, the Southampton Breakers and the Westhampton Aviators, all of whom play their games on the East End. They play, in uniform, in public parks and at baseball fields at schools.

These leagues, and others like them in New England, New Jersey and other places, can act as a kind of minor, minor league for the Atlantic League. This past summer, Chris Pike of Southampton was called up to play with the Long Island Ducks in the Atlantic League after the scouts from there saw him play in a lesser league. And he was glad of it, going off from where he dealt with a regular umpire you could boo to a robot umpire whispering to a regular umpire—who, looking very sure of himself on the outside, while stupidly listening to what he was told to do on his earpiece inside, would dramatically make the call.

I think having a robot umpire takes a little spice out of this national pastime of ours. On the other hand, it does speed up the game, and its decisions are dead accurate.



Can a robot umpire be trained to throw you out of the game if you kick sand into its gears? If so, you will have deserved it.

Although, the robot's decision to do that would get whispered into the ear of the human robot, so the human umpire would actually do it. Might as well get it done by a member of the offending player's species. What a shameful situation.

Will it go any further? We'll have to wait and see.

Dana

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OLA's Minerva Perez: Building a Stronger East End

BY DAVID TAYLOR

MINERVA PEREZ PERFORMING IN THE THOUGHT-PROVOKING PLAY "LOVE, LOSS AND WHAT I WORE" AT SOUTHAMPTON ARTS CENTER

The East End is home to skilled artists, brilliant writers, top chefs and other local celebrities known for their incredible talents and the attention those abilities have brought to the Hamptons and North Fork. Likewise, Organización Latino-Americana of Eastern Long Island (OLA) Executive Director Minerva Perez is known nationwide for using her skills to give voice to the voiceless in an unwavering effort to strengthen the East End community.

Recently honored in the 2019 NBC Latino 20, a list of top U.S. community leaders, Perez always felt called to social justice. Her first foray into such work was as the head of an NYC theater company producing thought-provoking, socially conscious plays without crossing over into "soapbox theater," as she puts it. In 2006, after moving to Long Island, she took notice of an alarming level of anti-immigrant sentiment coming from the Suffolk County Legislature and felt compelled to speak up for her community. She began volunteering at OLA part-time and quickly rose to the role of volunteer executive director, bolstering the Latino Film Festival of the Hamptons and addressing legislators on behalf of the organization. "This is not just doing work for Latinos," she notes of OLA's mission. "It's about a healthier community here, and that means we have to have equal access to protection from law enforcement; we have to have equal access to education to make sure that parents are invited in, feel comfortable and are able to engage with school districts." She adds that true equality will create "a stronger, healthier, smarter, more vibrant, more environmentally conscious East End."

Perez then moved on to The Retreat, a local safe haven for families affected by domestic abuse and sexual assault, working for six years as director of residential and transitional services. "Nothing can prepare you for working in a shelter, except for working in a domestic violence shelter," she says. "It was just the most mind-boggling, beautiful, exciting, fulfilling experience I've ever had in my life."

In 2016, she returned to OLA as the first official executive director, and has accomplished a great deal in a short span of time—starting with simply adding more staff to the ranks, including Associate Director Sandra Dunn and General Counsel Andrew Strong. "It shows the community that there's this other level of strength," she says of the additions, especially regarding human rights lawyer Strong. The organization has also hired a transportation coordinator for their vital bussing system, which drives East End residents with no other means of getting to the hospital, at no charge. While this service lightens some of the burden created by Suffolk County's lackluster bus system, OLA is also advocating for substantial changes to the current, antiquated schedule. "We've got busses that end at 7 p.m.! How does half that kitchen staff get home?" she asks. "With the Latino members of our community being an essential piece to making sure it can work, it doesn't work by chopping people out."

Personally working with local law enforcement, Perez has offered Latino diversity training to officers and purchased 15 smart phones for the Southampton Town Police Department, one for each patrol car, to ensure that every officer has access to LanguageLine Solutions, an on-demand phone interpreting service that allows easy communication with Spanish-speaking witnesses and victims of crimes.

Circles of Strength is a mental health workshop for families that began at the Children's Museum of the East End and has since expanded to Springs Elementary School during Perez's tenure at OLA. At the recurring event, the organization provides dinner, childcare and access to Spanish-speaking mental health professionals to help individuals realize they have a community that cares about them. "This idea of being isolated or feeling isolated is one that destroys families, individuals and children," Perez warns, noting that this is especially true for youth. "This overriding sentiment that 'I don't belong' is one that will never serve our town. These kids are here; they're part of our community. If they feel like they don't belong, then it's the worst thing you could ever be doing. Not even just for them, but it's the worst thing you could be doing for your town, because without that belonging there's less accountability, less support for other kids that might be needing them." She works to combat this dangerous thinking with Latino teen empowerment and diversity workshops at local schools, teaching administration, faculty and students to be mindful and accepting of new peers. OLA also works with the Southampton Town Youth Bureau to teach teens the power of the arts to build confidence and expand their perspective.

> *This is not just doing work for Latinos—it's about a healthier community here.*

Under Perez's bold guidance, the Latino Film Festival of the Hamptons, to be held this weekend, has evolved from screenings of established works to a showcase of promising filmmakers and new films that focus on controversial topics like LGBT identity and euthanasia, though she directs much of the credit to OLA co-founder Isabel Sepúlveda-de Scanlon, who created the event in 2004. "She had the vision for the film festival to use that form of visual storytelling to break stereotypes around what is and what isn't Latino," she says.

This year's lineup includes two dark comedies and an animated children's film, all spoken in Spanish with English subtitles. The first, *Antes Que Llegue el Ferry*, is a hyper-surrealist portrait of Havana in the whirlwind aftermath of the restoration of U.S.-Cuba relations, and it will screen at the Parrish Art Museum on Friday, November 15. On Saturday, Guild Hall will screen *Amalia, La Secretaria*, starring comedienne Marcela Benjumea as a secretary whose illusion of personal and professional control is undone by a technician assigned to make a repair at her office. Tickets to these events, which include live video discussions and receptions, are available at olalatinofilmfest2019.eventbrite.com. The final event is a free screening of the family film *Pachamama*, a beautiful homage to Mother Earth centered on a young boy who dreams of becoming a shaman, at Greenport High School on Sunday at 2 p.m.

Despite the tremendous, life-saving work Perez has done for the East End community as executive director of OLA, she remains entirely humble, preferring to see herself as an interim leader until the next generation is ready to take the reins. "I don't think it's appropriate for me to be leading OLA in 10 years or so. I feel very much like a placeholder, in the most positive of ways," she says. "My grand purpose is going to be a placeholder for those who come after me...the next generation of leadership that has grown up out here and that understands what the benefits and beauties are of this community, and also the challenges and players."

HONORING *the* ARTIST

This Week's Cover Artist: Jacqueline Penney

Cutchogue-based Jacqueline Penney is a prolific artist whose work has appeared in galleries throughout the East End and beyond, yet never before on a *Dan's Papers* cover. Penney's beautiful work is housed in an equally beautiful space on the North Fork, where she works and exhibits her art.

What was the inspiration for this piece?

I am inspired by the local wildlife, such as the osprey. I've always had strong affection for these unusual birds. For many years, they were an endangered species and at risk of extinction. They are now here seasonally. I so enjoy them while they are here. My painting that will be featured in *Dan's Papers* captures one of them in a majestic landing on its nest.

How would you describe your art style?

I am known for my realistic pastoral scenes, the tranquility of bucolic Long Island landscapes, old barns and domestic still lifes. I paint mostly with acrylics but am adept at several other mediums including, oils, watercolors, pen and ink and pencil. I also love to explore abstract possibilities.

How has living on Long Island informed your work?

I am inspired by the local wildlife, landscapes and seascapes, old barns and other local scenes. There is inspiration at every turn on the North Fork.

You've been doing art your whole life. How did you get started?

I was always fascinated by color and beauty and eager to create. When I was kindergarten, I remember putting my crayons on the radiator and watching the colors melt into each other. I was enthralled. I went to the Phoenix School of Design, Black Mountain College in Ashville, NC and the Institute of Design in Chicago. I attended many workshops of well-known artists that I admired. I have been a member of many art organizations all over the country.

Talk about your gallery and studio.

My 1840s barn was renovated into a distinctive home, gallery and studio. It is a wonderful place to live and work in an atmosphere of so much beauty. I can't imagine being anywhere else. I love living there surrounded by all my work and the memories of teaching and creating. I especially enjoy the interesting people that come to the gallery that appreciate my work. Everyone who enters loves spending time enjoying its contents and energy.

What is your proudest achievement or moment as an artist?

There are so many things I am proud of. I have won many awards over the years. I have written three how to books, sharing my extensive knowledge and techniques. *Me Painting Me My Memoir*, and my latest book, *My Dirty Sketchbooks*. I am also very proud to have inspired so many others while teaching over 30 the years. I feel blessed that I was able to earn a living as an artist, doing something that I love and fulfilled me.

The Jacqueline Penney Art Gallery & Studio is located at 270 North Street, Cutchogue. For more information, visit jacquelinepenney.net.

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MM Fine Art Delivers David Slater at His Revelatory Best

SLATER'S "JACKSON AND LEE IN PARADISE" (ABOVE), "BILLET YARD PHOENIX" (ON RIGHT)

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DAVID SLATER

Longtime Sag Harbor painter and recent Springs transplant David Slater might just be the East End art world's most unrecognized genius. Sure, locals know and love his colorful mixed-media works, but at 79 years old it's almost a crime he's never blown up on the national stage. At no time has this been more evident than with his new solo show at MM Fine Art in Southampton. The exhibition is billed through November 17, and anyone who appreciates visionary artwork should go see it before it closes.

Slater's intricate paintings are a kaleidoscopic stew mixing personal memoir, local history, myth and dreams, each imbued with layers of symbols and meaning. A conversation with the artist quickly reveals that every collaged scrap, word, number or robustly rendered figure represents a deeply considered choice. Nothing in his compositions is window dressing or placed by happenstance.

Take, for example, "Jackson and Lee in Paradise," a new 4 x 6-foot masterwork that acts as a centerpiece for this exhibition. Appearing like a devotional painting from the Middle Ages or a traditional Mexican votive, the canvas puts legendary abstract expressionists Jackson Pollock and Lee Krasner in the role of saints surrounded by icons from their storied lives and careers. Images of paint cans and other relics excavated from Pollock's Springs studio stand on a table between him and Krasner, while a skull—which Slater recalled from Arnold Newman's famous photograph of Pollock—floats above his head. The artist's pet crow Caw Caw features prominently, shown both standing and in flight.

Slater says the flying crow represents Pollock's final moments in 1956, when he was launched from his Model A Ford during a crash near his home on Springs Fireplace Road. "He actually flew at the end of his life," he says, describing the painting as his vision of Pollock as a shaman, with an altar displaying "his tools of alchemy." The painting took Slater two years to complete and, as gallery visitor Rosemary Simon gushed, "This is one of the greatest things I've ever seen—your finest hour."

"I think this is the best show of my work I've ever seen," Slater agrees. He acknowledges the prominence of Sag Harbor in these particular paintings, but the artist says he's lived in Springs for two years, and the new surroundings are beginning to creep into his next body of work—as demonstrated by the appearance of Pollock. "It took a psychological transformation to paint in Springs," Slater says. "It took a while."

"Jackson and Lee in Paradise" is just one of 15 pieces Slater has on view at MM Fine Art. Most were painted during the past five years, though some go back even farther, and traces of Sag Harbor can be seen in nearly all. Folks who know the village will notice local places and names, as well as multi-sailed tall ships and nautical imagery harkening back to the whaling era. Sag Harbor's Municipal Building is central to Slater's 5 x 6-foot "Circus Extreme." In addition to the beautifully lit and instantly recognizable architecture, which Slater saw from his roof, the painting features a striking red hummingbird, black cat, rainbow and clown in its rich tableau of experience, thought and memory. The artist points to a trio of female gang members in hoodies and yellow "war paint" in the lower right corner. He remembers them trying to intimidate him and a friend on the streets of Buffalo many years ago. "We actually stood our ground," Slater says, adding of that time, "Buffalo was really dangerous."

Slater draws upon eight decades of moments like this to deliver his compelling body of work, much of it emblazoned with common colors and motifs, such as stars, flames and butterflies. One doesn't need to know the stories to fall in love with the paintings they inspired—Slater's authenticity emerges through his deliberate brushstrokes and collaged scraps. Nothing about these paintings feels artificial or pretentious, and their shared iconography creates a prevalent thread that gives the show greater context.

Only the artist can tell us exactly what it all means, but the wealth of aesthetic and intellectual morsels makes attempting to decode his work a joyful endeavor.

BY OLIVER PETERSON

MM Fine Art is located at 4 North Main Street in Southampton. Call 631-259-2274 or visit mmfineart.com for hours and info.

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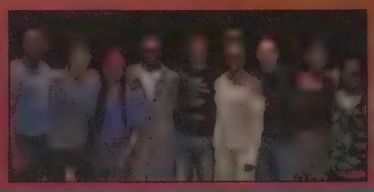

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Celebrating the Superlative Claudia Fleming's "Last Course"

ERIC STRIFFLER

Obsession is the wellspring of genius and madness, noted Michel de Montaigne. So, perhaps, is a root vegetable.

"I am obsessed with parsnips."

Surely Claudia Fleming has encountered the parsnip before. Yet she makes this statement with such a sense of wonder, flecked with hints of excitement and even promise, that it makes one ponder just what about the humble parsnip never struck her in quite this delightfully maddeningly way before. It turns out that a parsnip cream she recently tasted has done the trick, and started her on a path that will no doubt end upon a plate that lucky diners will be savoring and sighing over at the end of some spectacular meal. It is a road that countless vegetables, fruits, spices and the like have traveled, to endless delight.

Fleming has been called—accurately, in all cases—a desserts deity, the doyenne of North Fork dining, a pioneer. The reissue of her classic cookbook, *The Last Course*, and the fanfare-laden reception two decades after it first came out, chisels the terms "inspiration" and "legend" onto that list as well.

The Last Course was written to give home cooks a guide to undertaking their own versions of some 175 of Fleming's famous creations. You know, the ones that drew raves at Manhattan's Gramercy Tavern for a decade and earned her a James Beard Foundation Award and then a whole new wave of accolades when she and husband Chef Gerry Hayden opened the North Fork Table & Inn in Southold in 2006. Heady stuff, indeed. But she does not, by any account, want that to get in the way of your joy in the kitchen. If you are flailing a bit and fearful that you will never be able to re-create the dishes exactly like Fleming, stop for a moment. Take a breath. Now listen to Fleming's own words on the matter:

"The most important thing to remember is that cooking, and I think especially dessert-making, is incredibly fun."

Fun. That's the whole point. And flavor. Not to mention putting your own spin on things, taking risks, putting fear behind you and diving in.

"I would say start with the simpler ones, start with the cookies, start with things that aren't or don't appear intimidating," Fleming offers, her nurturing nature as evident here as in any kitchen she's overseen. "They give you confidence to go on to the ones that maybe are a little more time-consuming. Time is often seen as synonymous with difficulty, and they're not necessarily the same thing, so a time commitment is oftentimes what we don't have. So if you just begin with the simpler things, that's a very good way to start."

Beginnings. How often they do not foretell where things will go. Along with the recipes and wine-pairing tips (yes, great wine pairs with desserts as well as any other dish), *The Last Course* is an engaging telling of Fleming's own origin stories. Of beginning this illustrious culinary career not in the kitchen but waiting tables, including at NYC's Union Square Café in the 1980s. Of discovering a love for pastries and going off to further hone her craft in Europe. Of returning home and taking the role of pastry chef alongside Chef Tom Colicchio at the genesis of Gramercy Tavern, where under her guidance dessert became not just a sweet afterthought but a star attraction. Of moving to the East End and redefining the culinary culture of a region and curating a legacy.

Fleming's desserts have never been the towering nine-tier, liquid-smoke-emitting, let's-create-a-Vegas-show-around-this affair. The very idea that somebody might look at one of her dishes and say

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE

they didn't know whether to photograph it or eat it is, simply, odd to her. They are accessible and delicious, yet crafted and exacting, a balance of flavors and textures and temperatures that play in perfect harmony, of refined technique and individual artistry that reveal the dancer within. There is no pretension. Their sophistication comes from their foundation, from Fleming's foundation, in simplicity.

"You start with a simpler element, which is undoubtedly how I evolved," she says. "I would perfect one element and then say, okay, I feel like maybe I could enhance this with another element, so let me start working on that and then put it together with the original element."

Waffles with Maple-Glazed Bananas and Maple Flan. Chocolate Soufflé with Extra-Bittersweet Chocolate Sorbet, Milk Chocolate Malted Ice Cream and a Chocolate Malted. Fleming's menus through the years, and her chapter on Signature Composed Desserts, are filled with such inspired and sometimes seemingly unlikely yet perfect pairings. Much of her creative spark has come from using local, seasonal ingredients and taking them in unique directions, a practice she and Gerry, who passed away in 2015, made intrinsic to the North Fork Table & Inn's offerings. To this day, an apple, a squash, basil, berries, it's all paint for the canvas.

"When one does this for a living, so much time is spent thinking about it and doing it, and it's such a totally different animal than it is for the home cook. So this book gets broken down into elements that are each in and of themselves a dessert. For instance, there's a roasted pear recipe. I do roasted pears at the restaurant, but it's paired with a napoleon and a sorbet. One of those things is in and of itself a dessert. They are complete on their own. You don't *need* to make all three, but to make it more interesting to me, and as a result, to the diner, you start embellishing, which isn't necessarily required of a home cook."

Not required, but it sure sounds like fun, something to which anyone can aspire, a fresh perspective on the potential of a final course. Replacing the notion of *should be* with the promise of *can be*, Fleming's unique dessert ideation changed the gastronomical genre.

"I approach desserts much in the same way that cooks approach cooking. I think I was always a frustrated cook, and I always collect ingredients on a plate much in the same way that cooks do. I'm less about making cakes and doing classic pastries. I find myself to be less of a perfectionist than pastry chefs. I refer to myself as more of a dessert chef than a pastry chef, because pastry implies those perfect, beautiful creations that we think of as classic French pastries, and I don't think anyone would look at my desserts and call them classic French pastries."

Thomas Keller called them soul-satisfying. Daniel Boulud said they make him salivate. Others are simply left speechless. Her quest for the undiscovered, for a revelation, has always driven her. If there's a road not taken, she'll find it and embark.

"It's just boundless, it's endless. Because that's what makes it so exciting," she says, almost breathlessly. "It's an ever-learning experience. *(CONTINUED ON PAGE 40)*

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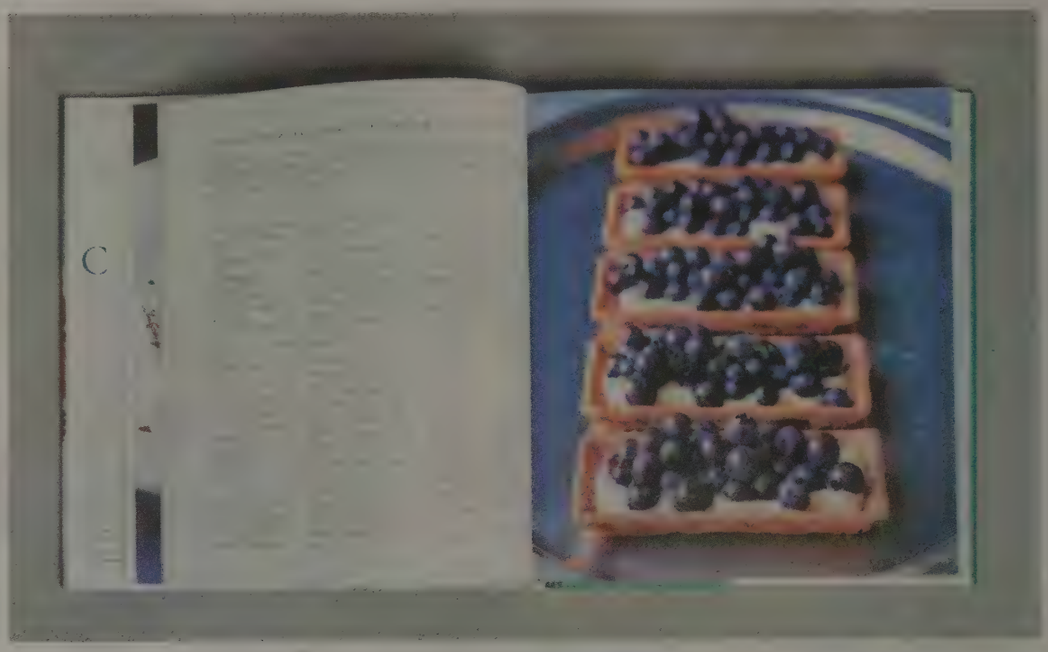
Food & Drink

Fleming (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39)



The industry has moved forward in so many ways over the years, with gels and foams, and while I don't utilize those things very much, they give a new perspective, they can help you think in a different way. They're mind-expanding. Every time anybody does something new—and we can debate whether there is anything new or original, or if we all riff on everything else—those sort of sometimes-crazy antics that chefs employ don't always have such staying power, you can take a small element from them, and that helps the industry move forward."

Re-enter the parsnip. Make no mistake, whoever served her that cream is responsible for some as-yet-to-be-imagined concoction. Her mother, who Fleming calls the most creative person she's ever known, may also have a little something to do with it all.

"It wasn't just about cooking," Fleming says, an air of amazement wrapping around her words, pulling them this way and that so she can't quite come up with exactly the praise or description that will do her mother justice. "She was actually the first graduating class from F.I.T., she was a fashion illustrator, but she was the most frugal person you've ever met, so she would just create and make things out of whatever was in her hands. They never stopped moving. Pieces of paper would transform into paper dolls. Extra pieces of lace would be transformed into angels for Christmas. She knitted like crazy, very complicated, beautiful patterns, different colors. No matter what she touched, she turned it into something. She was always doing something with her hands and her mind."

There is a slight pause. Just enough time for the scent of fresh-baked cookies to waft forward from memory.

"And she was a great cook."

Her mother's recipe for cookie dough made it into the pages of *The Last Course*, along with a wonderfully funny tale of an unfortunate fate that met a batch of holiday cookies that had to be hidden from a young Claudia and her siblings. Family recipes, celebrating history, a connection to those who came before us, are special to the chef. "They are just a part of the fabric of our lives that we just want to hold onto and share it. And food is just about sharing—there's no better way to bring people together. A family recipe, everybody can relate, and it brings back memories."

Looking back, looking ahead. *The Last Course* rerelease, and all it has engendered, is by no means a last act. The next act, well, that is an exciting proposition. And it is imminent.

"I feel like I am in dire need of time to absorb again and interpret," Fleming says. "And I think hopefully that means some travel, seeing different cultures and trying to interpret for myself what that means culinarily. That may mean America, maybe a swing through the Southern states, maybe New England. Maybe it's Morocco. I don't know. But I feel like it's time."

ISOBEL MEDIA

CLAUDIA FLEMING'S PEAR CRISPS

Wherever those sojourns lead, the chef will never be far from her desserts. They are the fiber of Fleming's being—to create them, to offer them, to evolve them, is to be who she is. "It's just meant to be pleasurable. I'm not trying to bend minds," she says. "It's just about making people happy. It's such a simple pleasure, and to be able to provide that for people, I think that's a pretty great thing."

BY ERIC FEIL

Please join us at the inaugural Dan's Holidays in the Vines wine-pairing dinner hosted by RG|NY on Saturday, November 30, starting at 6 p.m. at RG|NY vineyard, 6025 Sound Ave, Riverhead.

General Admission seats are $110 and VIP tickets are $150. In addition to the cocktail and hors d'oeuvres hour and the six-course wine-pairing dinner, featuring acclaimed North Fork chefs and winemakers, VIP tickets include a copy of The Last Course, *meet & greet and book signing with Claudia Fleming, special pours and a signature event cocktail by Matchstick Distilling Co., special VIP bite by Grace & Grit, and a VIP gift bag.*

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Food & Drink

Chef Robby Beaver Stays Frisky for the Holidays

Greenport's Frisky Oyster is a North Fork staple, with chef/owner Robby Beaver creating a delectable menu of dishes crafted from local ingredients. Beaver will be at this year's inaugural Dan's Holidays in the Vines hosted by RG|NY on Saturday, November 30.

Share some of your favorite holiday food traditions from growing up, and from your family today.

Every Christmas morning, I make brunch for a big group of extended family that stays with us each year. We all sleep in—even the kids—and wait until after we eat to open presents. It's just super relaxed.

What is the one food or dish that defines the holiday season for you?

In early fall, I walk through my neighborhood and tag sassafras trees to later harvest for my turkey brine. It's the most prominent flavor, and something that I look forward to using every season.

What is the secret to creating the perfect food-and-wine pairing?

Food and wine that originate from the same area seem to be an easy pairing. For example, Crescent Farm duck goes really well with McCall Wines' pinot noir.

What goes into creating your fall and winter menus for the restaurant?

I like to pull from classics that reappear annually on our fall and winter menus as much as I enjoy creating new dishes. It's always fun to talk to the local farmers about what they are excited about each season, and work alongside them to come up with something really special.

BARBARA LASSENON

What aspects define your idea of the perfect holiday celebration?

That's easy—good food, good friends, great fun.

What is the best holiday gift you've ever received, and why?

The most excited I ever was to receive a gift was when I was 13 and my parents got me a drum set. I was in marching band throughout high school, volunteered as a band instructor after I graduated, and to this day I still play. My oldest is also a drummer, so it's awesome to jam with him.

What do you love about the cooler-weather seasons and the holiday time of year here on the East End?

I love the cooler weather seasons on the East End because everything has a calmer, quieter feel. It feels very reverent driving up the North Fork.

What is your favorite holiday movie or TV special, and why?

Home Alone is still funny, and especially fun to watch now with my kids.

What is the best kind of holiday cookie?

My wife makes double-chocolate peppermint cookies that I look forward to every year.

You have a glass of your favorite wine in-hand. What is your toast for the holiday season and the new year?

I hope the only pain in 2020 is Champagne. Cheers to family, friends, fun and food!

Visit thefriskyoyster.com for more on The Frisky Oyster. Find tickets and more information on Dan's Holidays in the Vines hosted by RG|NY at HolidaysintheVines.com.

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Food & Drink

Chef Peter Ambrose Spreads Seasonal Cheer

Dan's GrillHampton champion chef Peter Ambrose of Endless Summer Events is a Taste of Summer regular, but he's also a lover of the colder months. Ambrose will offer up his culinary delights the inaugural Dan's Holiday in the Vines hosted by RG|NY on Saturday, November 30.

Share some of your favorite holiday food traditions from growing up, and from your family today.

My mother's mom would always bake pizzelle and her version of fry breads for the family. Others in the family have tried to replicate them but none were better. A Christmas Eve tradition as long as I can remember is pasta with tuna bolognese. Christmas morning was great kielbasa and scrambled eggs.

What is the one food or dish that defines holiday season for you?

I think it would always be a comfort/share dish and I think lasagna is a great one. It's a dish that requires building flavors and plenty of love to make a great lasagna. A great bolognese, sweet sausage, perfect béchamel, all coming together to make a great dish.

What is the secret to creating the perfect food-and-wine pairing?

I'm a margarita guy myself, so wine pairing to me is a wine you enjoy and a meal you enjoy. They can never set you down the wrong path paired together.

What goes into creating your fall and winter menus for the restaurant?

Being primarily an off-premise caterer, our fall and winter events are usually family gatherings, "Friendsgiving" and some New Year's Eve parties. As far as holiday parties, I love to do traditional foods and prepare them in untraditional ways. Crawdad gravies, Hoppin' Johns Chef Ambrose style, New England clam chowder converted to New Mexico clam chowder...

What aspects define your idea of the perfect holiday celebration?

Well of course, company, foods that encourage interaction, family style dishes meant to be shared and passed, fun drinks like harvest margaritas.

What is the best holiday gift you've ever received, and why?

My children were all born within a two-week period from the end of October to the first couple weeks of November. I vividly remember their first Christmases and then being old enough to acknowledge their surroundings and know for the first time in their lives that Christmas is not every other day. So my children, for sure.

How do you enjoy the fall and winter season when you're not in the kitchen?

I am an avid golfer and fall is the best time of year to play golf, great conditions and less crowds. As long as the thermometer hits 38 and the wind is down and the snow is not on the ground, golf continues through the winter.

What do you love about the cooler-weather seasons and the holiday time of year here on the East End?

The East End comes to life again from Thanksgiving to Christmas. Tree lighting and the great late-fall produce we still produce. The effort and detail that businesses put into decorating makes Eastern Long Island a winter wonderland.

What is your favorite holiday movie or TV special, and why?

Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town. It's great story and it never gets old.

What is the best kind of holiday cookie?

I'm a sucker for simple shortbread cookies.

You have a glass of your favorite wine in-hand. What is your toast for the holiday season and the new year?

That 2020 offers the opportunity to accomplish all your 2019 goals you may not have achieved. Perhaps you just needed more time or life just got in the way. Pursue your dreams and always treat everyone in the manner you wish they would treat you.

For more on Endless Summer Events, visit chefpeterambrose.com. For tickets and more information on Dan's Holidays in the Vines, visit HolidaysintheVines.com.

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LGBT History in the Hamptons: Nanette and Isa's Love

When writer Isa Goldberg first encountered Nanette Shaw, a therapist, at a dinner party in the 1970s, a decades-spanning love story began. But they didn't know it at the time.

"We met on New Year's Day at an all-women's party at this lovely brunch with beautiful music playing," Goldberg recalls. "Nanette was consumed in conversation with a French poet..."

"An American poet who spoke French!" Shaw corrects her wife.

"And I tried to introduce myself to Nanette, but she certainly wasn't interested," Goldberg says. "Almost a year later, right before Christmas, we met again at a party, this time at a friend's apartment who was a dominatrix. The apartment was [filled with] whips and chains. And we connected!"

Goldberg and Shaw have been married since 2011—New York State recognized same-sex marriage before it was federally recognized in 2015—but they've been together 36 years. For Shaw, meeting Goldberg was a natural progression after she came out. "Ti-Grace Atkinson, who's a noted feminist theorist, said 'feminism is a theory, lesbian is a practice,'" Shaw notes. "For me it turned out to be true. I was married to a man, and he said to me, 'Don't ever explore feminism because that leads to lesbianism!' Obviously, I did. I had a daughter and I got involved in the movement and fell in love with a woman in the late '70s, and the rest is history...and I met Isa!" Goldberg, meanwhile, ran into conflict with her family when she came out. "They acted like they weren't surprised, but I think they had their own notions and expectations of what their child should be," she says. "I'm not sure that being gay was the breaking point [in our relationship] but my not pursuing those expectations was."

NANETTE SHAW AND ISA GOLDBERG

The two raised Shaw's daughter together and now have two grandchildren. "Our life is pretty full. We travel a lot," Shaw says. Shaw and Goldberg also have a full life in Sag Harbor. "The Hamptons is a great playground for us," Goldberg says. "It opened doors to a community that we still appreciate and enjoy. The [former] East End Gay Organization was a meaningful part of that community."

Shaw and Goldberg have also bucked the stereotype of lesbians and gay men not getting along. "Our closest friends are male couples who are significantly younger than we are," Shaw says. Goldberg adds playfully, "As they say, why hold up a mirror to nature? We look at prettier people than we happen to be at this point in our lives."

As they reflect on their lives, both Shaw and Goldberg are happy with how the world and society has progressed for LGBT people. "My daughter was embarrassed to bring friends home 30, 40 years ago, and yet she told me last week that her younger daughter might be gay," Shaw says. "And big deal! I think it runs in the family. I have several gay people in my family. The times are changing and have changed—one of our nieces is married and pregnant with another woman."

Goldberg, who has recently taken up acting, also sees a lot of progress. "Because of my acting pursuits, I do meet a lot of very young people, and what surprises me is how aware they are of the stigmas attached to being gay," she says. "I would have thought it wouldn't be the subject of stories they write. It makes me aware of the very vivid history."

And of course, Shaw points to a certain East Ender when thinking about that change. "Things have progressed in a beautiful way and we have Edie Windsor to thank for that."

BY LEE MEYER

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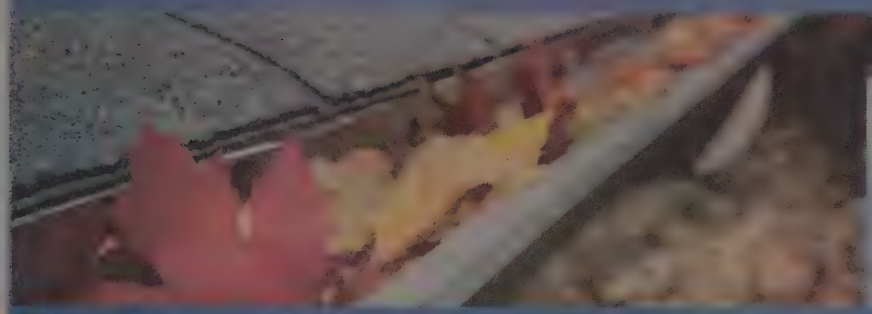

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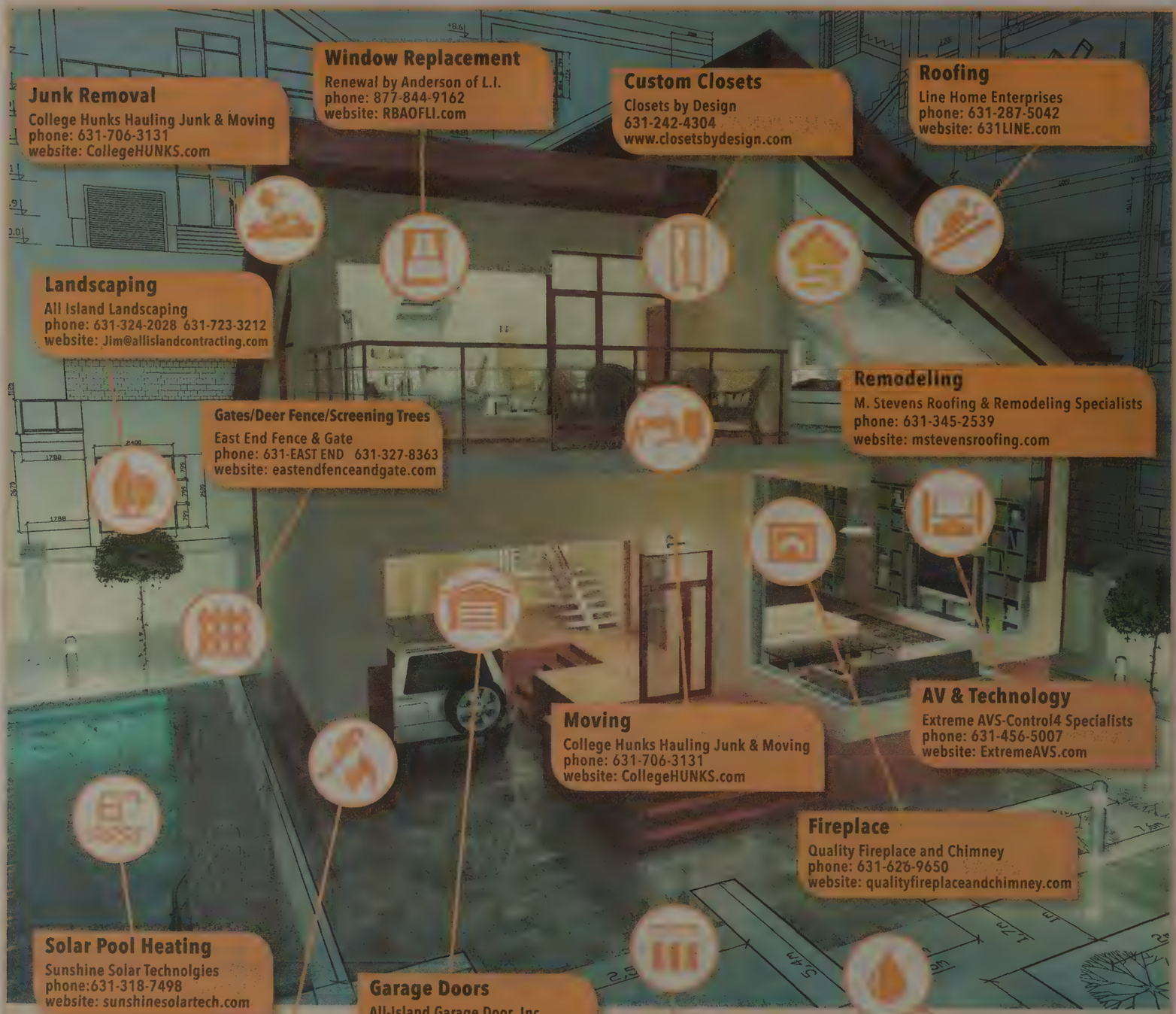

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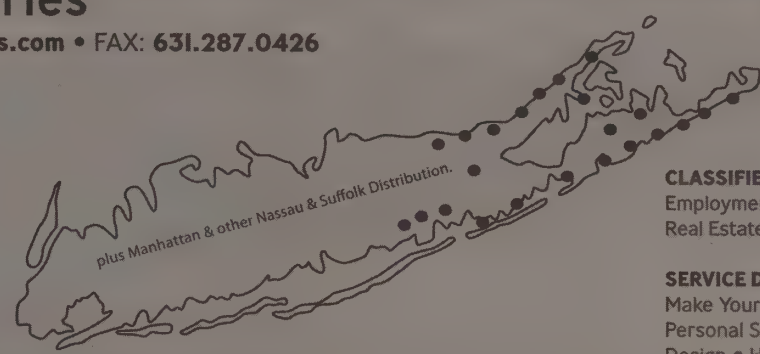

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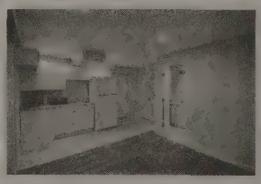

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Real Estate

Fashion Mogul Elie Tahari Lists Sagaponack Estate

ELIE TAHARI'S ESTATE IN SAGAPONACK HAS STUNNING OCEANFRONT VIEWS, A GREAT ROOM WITH BEAUTIFUL LIGHTING AND MORE

A most fashionable home is on the market—East End fashion designer Elie Tahari has listed his Sagaponack estate for $39 million. This oceanfront enclave, represented by Ann Ciardullo and Keith Green of Sotheby's International Realty East Hampton Brokerage, was originally designed in 1998 by HS2 Architecture and features a secluded master suite with a panoramic view of Sagaponack Beach, a room-sized shower, a six-person tub, an office/getaway with 85-inch TV and private balcony overlooking the great room. The sun deck has its own set of stairs to the beach. Two other suites are included with the property. The first sits oceanfront, with private egress to the beach. The second suite features a four-person steam shower, with a wall of glass leading to a hidden garden.

"The sunrises in this home are unlike anything I've seen before," says Green of the views from the great room. "You're literally one with the ocean....there isn't anybody who has walked on that property who hasn't felt like it's the antidote to civilization." Adds Ciardullo, "It's a very unique property and it is just perfect for that right person."

The barn-like great room has opposing Tambour glass doors, a 30-foot ceiling, and a 60-foot pool surrounded by a forest of Russian Olive trees. The interior of the great room was crafted with mid-century overtones by designer Tom Flynn. A flagstone terrace sits in a vine-covered pergola with a dining table for 10.

Another special aspect of the property? Ciardullo and Green note that the Southampton village Zoning Board of Approvals has approved an expansion, putting the buyer several years ahead in growing the home to 10,000 square feet.

The Jerusalem-born Tahari emigrated to the United States and worked in New York City's garment district in the 1970s. In 1973, Tahari began his eponymous fashion label, opening his first boutique on Madison Avenue soon after. As he came to prominence, he held fashion shows in such venues as Studio 54. His work has been featured in *Vogue*, *Harper's Bazaar* and more and in 1989 was named one of Crain's New York Business 40 under 40. Since then, Tahari has become one of the fashion world's biggest movers and shakers, with global expansion, numerous awards and a huge collection. In 2013, Mayor Mike Bloomberg declared September 4 "Elie Tahari Day" honoring his 40 years in business. In the summer of 2019, his son, Jeremey, opened an East Hampton pop-up shop of his own at the Elie Tahari boutique.

The property is located at 135 Crestview Lane, Sagaponack.

For more information on this listing, visit sothebysrealty.com.

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